

# The Life Worth Living

## Unit 5

### I. *From Nature*

- a. Ralph Waldo Emerson
  - i. Most famous for =
  - ii. Family was poor but =
  - iii. Father died at an early age from =
  - iv. Life was laid out – go to \_\_\_\_\_, be a \_\_\_\_\_ like the 7 generations of Emersons before him
  - v. First wife died early in their marriage from =
  - vi. Quit preaching & traveled Europe, came back to U.S. & was a speaker
  - vii. Believed in the “\_\_\_\_\_” nature & humanity together
  - viii. Speeches involved move on from the past
  - ix. View on life =
  - x. Son died of scarlet fever at the age of 5 then =
- b. The Story
  - i. God is found in \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_. More precisely in the harmony of both.
  - ii. Nature achieves its full splendor when =
  - iii. Adults lose the sense of wonder & delight over time – we should be more like \_\_\_\_\_
    - 1. Those adults who don’t lose this sense remain youthful in spirit all their lives.
- c. Imagery
  - i. Definition =
  - ii. Appeals mostly to sight (find passages & explain them briefly)
    - 1. Stars
    - 2. Snow puddles
    - 3. Twilight
    - 4. Vegetable
- d. Paradoxes p.229 #3 (be able to explain them)
  - i. Definition of paradox =
    - 1. “I am not solitary while I read and write, though nobody is with me.”
    - 2. “But every night come out these envoys of beauty, and light the universe with their admonishing smile.”
    - 3. “Most persons do not see the sun.”
    - 4. “Almost I fear to think how glad I am.”

### II. “From Self-Reliance”

- a. Ralph Waldo Emerson
  - i. See above
- b. The Story
  - i. Main point =
  - ii. Sanctity in the individual mind

- iii. What side we express =
- iv. A person is happiest when =
- v. It's okay to contradict yourself, why =
- vi. It is great to be \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. Like =
- c. Figure of speech (explain each)
  - i. Definition =
    - 1. "iron string"
      - a.
    - 2. "joint-stock company"
      - a.
    - 3. "A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds"
      - a.
    - 4. "May as well concern himself with his shadow on the wall"
      - a.
  - ii. Utopia =

### III. *From Walden, or Life in the Woods*

- a. Henry David Thoreau
  - i. Father's job =
  - ii. Mom =
    - 1. Emerson's wife's sister was one = the relationship between Emerson & Thoreau
  - iii. Went to \_\_\_\_\_
    - 1. Was a rebel because =
  - iv. Lived by \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
    - 1. Attempt to rediscover the grandeur of a simple life led close to nature
    - 2. Lived there for \_\_\_\_\_ years \_\_\_\_\_ months
  - v. Failure
    - 1. Only lasted 2 weeks =
      - a. Because =
    - 2. Girl he proposed to =
    - 3. Lectures were =
    - 4. Difficult to get along with
    - 5. Later in life lived with =
  - vi. Helped \_\_\_\_\_ make their way to Canada
  - vii. Was an excellent carpenter, mason, and gardener.
  - viii. Was a \_\_\_\_\_ which was weird because  
Romantics focused more on feelings and intuition rather than facts
- b. The Story
  - i. Addresses story to " \_\_\_\_\_ "
    - 1. Could mean =
    - 2. Or =
  - ii. Makes lots of references to =
  - iii. "Economy"
    - 1.

- 2.
- 3.
- iv. "Where I Lived, and What I Lived For"
  1. Lives by =
  2. Lives for =
    - a. In touch with the essential elements of life
    - b. "\_\_\_\_\_"
    - i. Reduce excess
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ is useless (railroads)
- v. "Solitude"
  - 1.
- vi. "The Bean Field"
  - 1.
  2.
    - a. Compares to a war
- vii. "Brute Neighbors"
  1.
    - a.
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_ is useless
  2. Loon
    - a. Making fun of =
- viii. "Conclusion"
  1. Decided to leave =
  2. Built castles in the air =
  3. Follow the call of "a different drummer" =
  4. Trees mature at different times =
  5. Nonconformity
  6. Bug in the trees =
  7. "Only that day dawns to which we are awake"=
- ix. First person point of view =
  1. Changes at the end, why =
- x. Unlocking meaning in metaphors p. 246 (explain each)
  1. "As for the rest of my readers, they will accept such portions as apply to them. I trust that non will stretch the seams in putting on the coat, for it may do good service to him whom it fits" p. 234
  2. "I wanted to live deep and suck out all the marrow of life . . . " p. 237
  3. "If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away." P. 243

#### IV. "From Resistance to Civil Government"

- a. Henry David Thoreau
  - i. See above
- b. The Story

- i. Gets jailed for =
  - 1. Doesn't want to give money to the war with Mexico and the expansion of slavery
- ii. Says people shouldn't buy \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ because it supports slavery
- iii. \_\_\_\_\_ pays the tax for him
- iv. Doesn't think much about his jail time – after he gets out he =
- v. Things will change & it won't be a problem again if =
- vi. Government should serve =
  - 1. They are the real agents of change and progress
- vii. \_\_\_\_\_ do the work, not the government p. 250 left side
- viii. Still have a government, just =
- ix. Other people don't really understand his ideas
  - 1. They should revolt like him and then change would occur
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_ separation keeps him apart from people more than physical distance
- x. One day the state will be truly "free and enlightened" – recognize individual authority
- c. Paradox (explain each)
  - i. Definition =
    - 1. "That government is best which governs not at all"
      - a.
    - 2. "I saw that, if there was a wall of stone between me and my townsmen, there was a still more difficult one to climb or break through, before they could get to be as free as I was"
      - a.
    - 3. "I felt as if I alone of all my townsmen had paid my tax"
      - a.
      - b.